

Chapter 4

4 2007 Action Item Update

The planning committee convened to review the WUI Wildfire Mitigation Plan in 2007 went through each of the action items listed below and provided a status report. Several of the recommendations have been completed, some are still on-going, and some have yet to begin. A short summary of the each project's status is given in the last column of each of the following tables.

The 2007 Update Addendum is part of the annual review process discussed in the original 2005 WUI Wildfire Mitigation Plan. It is the responsibility of the County Commissioners Office through the Nez Perce County Fire Department to organize an annual meeting of the planning committee to review existing projects, add new ones, and discuss new wildfire related issues in the county. Complete re-evaluation should be conducted on the 5th anniversary of the adoption of the 2005 plan.

4.1 WUI Safety & Policy

Wildfire mitigation efforts must be supported by a set of policies and regulations at the county level that maintain a solid foundation for safety and consistency. The recommendations enumerated here serve that purpose. Because these items are regulatory in nature, they will not necessarily be accompanied by cost estimates. These recommendations are policy related in nature and therefore are recommendations to the appropriate elected officials; debate and formulation of alternatives will serve to make these recommendations suitable and appropriate.

Table 4.1. WUI Action Items in Safety and Policy.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
4.1.a: Amend existing building codes to apply equally to new single housing construction as it does to sub-divisions. Make sure existing policy is comprehensive to wildland fire risks.	Protection of people and structures by applying a standard of road widths, access, and building regulations suitable to insure new homes can be protected while minimizing risks to firefighters. (defensible space, roads and access management, water systems, building codes, signage, and maintenance of private forest and range lands)	County Commissioners in cooperation with Rural Fire Districts and Planning and Zoning.	Year 1 (2005): Debate and adoption of revised code. Review adequacy of changes annually, make changes as needed. 2007 Status: The County automatically updates all building codes to mimic the State adopted standards.
4.1.b: Develop County policy concerning building materials used in high-risk WUI areas on existing structures and new construction	Protection of people and structures by improving the ability of emergency response personnel to respond to threatened homes in high-risk areas.	County Commissioners Office in cooperation with Rural Fire Departments	Year 1 (2005) activity: Consider and develop policy to address construction materials for homes and businesses located in high wildfire risk areas. Specifically, a County policy concerning wooden roofing materials and flammable siding, especially where juxtaposed near heavy wildland fuels. 2007 Status: Ongoing
4.1.c: Adoption of International Fire Code and creation of a County Fire Marshall/Chief position that would lead the Nez Perce County Fire Department and inspect sites for compliance to the International Fire Code as well as enforce the mandates of the Code.	Protection of people and structures by improving the ability of emergency services personnel to safely and effectively respond to homes.	Planning and Zoning with County Commissioners Office and Rural Fire Departments.	Year 1 (2005) activity: Consider and develop policy to enforce the International Fire Code regulations already adopted by the State of Idaho and seek funding to create a County Fire Warden/Chief position. 2007 Status: Completed. The County has adopted the International Fire Code. Ron Hall is currently the County's Fire Marshall.

Table 4.1. WUI Action Items in Safety and Policy.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
4.1.d: Develop a formal WUI Advisory Committee to advise County Commissioners on WUI Issues and Treatments	Protection of people and structures by improving the ability of decision makers to make informed decisions about wildfire issues.	County Commissioners Office	Year 1 (2005) activity: Formalize a committee, its membership and service decided on by the County Commissioners, to collaborate on WUI issues within Nez Perce County. Members potentially to include land management organizations and companies, private landowners, and fire protection personnel. 2007 Status: The County Local Emergency Planning Committee has taken on this task. County Fire Chief Ron Hall will chair this LEPC sub-committee.
4.1.e: Develop a County Commissioner's Office policy to support the applications for grant monies for projects resulting from recommendations in this plan.	Protection of people and structures by improving the ability of residents and organizations to implement sometimes costly projects.	County Commissioners Office	Ongoing activity: Support grant applications as requested in a manner consistent with applications from residents and organizations in Nez Perce County. 2007 Status: Ongoing

4.2 People and Structures

Many of the recommendations in this section will define a set of criteria for implementation while others will be rather specific in extent and application. Many of the recommendations in involve education and increasing awareness of the residents of Nez Perce County.

Table 4.2. WUI Action Items for People and Structures.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items, Planning Horizon and Estimated Costs
4.2.a: Youth and Adult Wildfire Educational Programs	Protect people and structures by increasing awareness of WUI risks, how to recognize risk factors, and how to modify those factors to reduce risk	Cooperative effort including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Idaho Cooperative Extension Idaho Department of Lands Nez Perce Tribe State and Private Forestry 	Year 1 (2005): Evaluate effectiveness of currently funded County education programs. If possible, use existing educational program materials and staffing. These programs may need reformatted. Formal needs assessment should be responsibility of University of Idaho Cooperative Extension faculty and include the development of an integrated WUI educational series by year 3

Table 4.2. WUI Action Items for People and Structures.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items, Planning Horizon and Estimated Costs
		Offices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau of Land Management • Local School Districts • Local Fire Departments • Cities of Nez Perce County 	<p>(2006). Costs initially to be funded through existing budgets for these activities to be followed with grant monies to continue the programs as identified in the formal needs assessment.</p> <p>Detailed information regarding home defensible space requirements is contained on the FireWise CD, which can be purchased and personalized by the County. The CD costs \$2,500.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>
4.2.b: Wildfire risk assessments of homes in identified communities	<p>Protect people and structures by increasing awareness of specific risk factors of individual home sites in the at-risk landscapes. Only after these are completed can home site treatments follow.</p>	<p>To be implemented by County Commissioners Office in cooperation with the Rural Fire Departments. Actual work may be completed by Wildfire Mitigation Consultants or trained volunteers.</p>	<p>Cost: Approximately \$100 per home site for inspection, written report, and discussions with the homeowners.</p> <p>There are approximately 15,285 housing units in Nez Perce County, many of these structures would benefit from a home site inspection.</p> <p>Action Item: Secure funding and contract to complete the inspections during years 1 & 2 (2005-06)</p> <p>Home site inspection reports and estimated budget for each home site's treatments will be a requirement to receive funding for treatments through grants.</p> <p>2007 Status: There have been some risk assessments completed in the Soldiers Meadows area; however, this is an ongoing project.</p>
Focus Areas:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agatha – 75 homes, 90% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$6,750 • Arrow – 64 homes, 90% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$5,760 • Culdesac – 258 homes, 40% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$10,320 • Gifford – 44 homes, 40% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$1,760 • Lapwai – 446 homes, 40% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$17,840 • Leland – 72 homes, 25% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$1,800 • Lenore – 137 homes, 80% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$10,960 • Lewiston – 120 homes (outside of city limits), 25% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$3,000 • Lookout – 50 homes, 90% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$4,500 • Melrose – 45 homes, 60% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$2,700 • Peck – 263 homes, 90% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$23,670 • Slickpoo – 66 homes, 70% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$4,620 • Southwick – 140 homes, 25% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$3,500 			

Table 4.2. WUI Action Items for People and Structures.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items, Planning Horizon and Estimated Costs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spalding – 118 homes, 50% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$5,900 Summit – 30 homes, 60% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$1,800 Sweetwater – 205 homes, 60% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$12,300 Waha – 140 homes, 100% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$14,000 Webb – 37 homes, 90% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$3,330 Other Rural Homes – 4,092 homes, 30% need Home defensibility inspections, cost estimate of \$122,760 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Cost Estimate for this item: \$257,270 		
4.2.c: Home Site WUI Treatments	Protect people, structures, and increase fire fighter safety by reducing the risk factors surrounding homes in the WUI of Nez Perce County	County Commissioners in cooperation with Fire Mitigation Consulting company and Rural Fire Districts	<p>Actual funding level will be based on the outcomes of the home site assessments and cost estimates</p> <p>Estimate that treatments will cost approximately \$800 per home site for a defensible space of roughly 150'.</p> <p>Home site treatments can begin after the securing of funding for the treatments and immediate implementation in 2004 and will continue from year 1 through 5 (2008).</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>
Focus Areas:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agatha – 75 homes, 90% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$54,000 Arrow – 64 homes, 90% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$46,080 Culdesac – 258 homes, 40% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$82,560 Gifford – 44 homes, 40% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$14,080 Lapwai – 446 homes, 40% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$142,720 Leland – 72 homes, 25% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$14,400 Lenore – 137 homes, 80% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$87,680 Lewiston – 120 homes (outside of city limits), 25% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$24,000 Lookout – 50 homes, 90% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$36,000 Melrose – 45 homes, 60% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$21,600 Peck – 263 homes, 90% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$189,360 Slickpoo – 66 homes, 70% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$36,960 Southwick – 140 homes, 25% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$28,000 Spalding – 118 homes, 50% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$47,200 Summit – 30 homes, 60% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$14,400 Sweetwater – 205 homes, 60% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$98,400 Waha – 140 homes, 100% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$112,000 		

Table 4.2. WUI Action Items for People and Structures.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items, Planning Horizon and Estimated Costs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webb – 37 homes, 90% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$26,640 • Other Rural Homes – 4,092 homes, 30% need Home defensibility projects, cost estimate of \$ 982,080 		
	• Total Cost Estimate for this item: \$ 2,058,160		
4.2.d: Maintenance of Home Site WUI Treatments	Protect people, structures, and increase fire fighter safety by reducing the risk factors surrounding homes in the WUI of Nez Perce County	County Commissioners Office in cooperation with Rural Fire Departments and local home owners	<p>Home site defensibility treatments must be maintained periodically to sustain benefits of the initial treatments.</p> <p>Each site should be assessed 5 years following initial treatment</p> <p>Estimated re-inspection cost will be \$50 per home site on all sites initially treated or recommended for future inspections (\$65,000)</p> <p>Follow-up inspection reports with treatments as recommended years 5 through 10.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>
4.2.e: Re-entry of Home Site WUI Treatments	Protect people, structures, and increase fire fighter safety by reducing the risk factors surrounding homes in the WUI of Nez Perce County	County Commissioners Office in cooperation with Rural Fire Departments and local home owners	<p>Re-entry treatments will be needed periodically to maintain the benefits of the initial WUI home treatments. Each re-entry schedule should be based on the initial inspection report recommendations, observations, and changes in local conditions. Generally occurs every 5-10 years.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>

Table 4.2. WUI Action Items for People and Structures.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items, Planning Horizon and Estimated Costs
4.2.f: Community Defensible Zone WUI Treatments	Protect people, structures, and increase fire fighter safety by reducing the risk factors surrounding high risk communities in the WUI of Nez Perce County	County Commissioners in cooperation with Fire Mitigation Consultants and Rural Fire Districts	<p>Actual funding level will be based on the outcomes of the home site assessments and cost estimates.</p> <p>Years 2-5 (2005-09): Treat high risk wildland fuels from home site defensible space treatments (5.4.c) to an area extending 400 feet to 750 feet beyond home defensible spaces, where steep slopes and high accumulations of risky fuels exist. Should link together home treatment areas. Treatments target high risk concentrations of fuels and not 100% of the area identified. To be completed only after or during the creation of home defensible spaces have been implemented.</p> <p>Communities and areas to target: Waha, Soldiers Meadow, Gifford, Peck, Lenore, Culdesac, Myrtle, Lewiston, Kendrick, Juliaetta, Cottonwood Creek, and Lapwai.</p> <p>Approximate average cost on a per structure basis is \$750-\$1,500 depending on extent of home defensibility site treatments, for a cost estimate of \$1.0 million. Couple this cost with the home defensibility space costs of \$1.3 million. The number of structures to benefit from these treatments include both homes and businesses (assessed value of \$20,942,402). The average B/C Ratio for these treatments combined in Nez Perce County is 70:1. Actual B/C ration by community will be variable.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>
4.2.g: Develop a multi-jurisdictional Prevention Coop to support the numerous fire prevention and education efforts throughout the five county area.	Protect people and structures by increasing public awareness of wildfire risks, how to recognize risk factors, and how to modify those factors to reduce risk	<p>Cooperative effort including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Idaho Cooperative Extension • Idaho Department of Lands • State and Private Forestry Offices • Nez Perce Tribe • Idaho Association of Logging Contractors • Local Fire Departments & Districts • Bureau of Land Management • USDA Forest Service 	<p>Year 1 & 2 (2007 – 08): The Nez Perce National Forest has already begun organizing an effort to develop a five county cooperative program to provide shared educational materials to all local firefighting agencies and organizations. The purpose of the program is to promote a unified effort between organizations to improve public awareness of wildland fire issues.</p> <p>2007 Status: New project, in progress</p>

Table 4.2. WUI Action Items for People and Structures.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items, Planning Horizon and Estimated Costs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearwater RC&D • Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security • Idaho, Clearwater, Lewis, Nez Perce, and Latah Counties • Non-profit organizations • Private business & landowners 	

4.3 Infrastructure

Significant infrastructure refers to the communications, transportation (road and rail networks), energy transport supply systems (gas and power lines), and water supply that service a region or a surrounding area. All of these components are important to the North Central Idaho area, and to Nez Perce County specifically. These networks are by definition a part of the Wildland-Urban Interface in the protection of people, structures, **infrastructure**, and unique ecosystems. Without supporting infrastructure a community's structures may be protected, but the economy and way of life lost.

Table 4.3. Infrastructure Enhancements.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
4.3.a: Post FEMA "Emergency Evacuation Route" signs along the identified Primary and secondary access routes in the county.	Protection of people and structures by informing residents and visitors of significant infrastructure in the county that will be maintained in the case of an emergency.	County Commissioners in cooperation with Rural Fire Districts and Roads Department.	Year 1 (2005): Purchase of signs. Posting roads and make information available to residents of the importance of Emergency Routes. 2007 Status: Ongoing
4.3.b: Fuels mitigation of the FEMA "Emergency Evacuation Routes" in the county to insure these routes can be maintained in the case of an emergency.	Protection of people and structures by providing residents and visitors with ingress and egress that can be maintained during an emergency.	County Commissioners in cooperation with Rural Fire Districts and Roads Department.	Year 1 (2005): Full assessment of road defensibility and ownership participation. 2007 Status: Ongoing

Table 4.3. Infrastructure Enhancements.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
4.3.c: Access Improvements of bridges, cattle guards, and limiting road surfaces. Tie information to emergency 911 system.	Protection of people, structures, infrastructure, and economy by improving access for residents and fire fighting personnel in the event of a wildfire. Reduces the risk of a road failure that leads to the isolation of people or the limitation of emergency vehicle and personnel access during an emergency.	County Roads and Bridges Department in cooperation with BLM, State of Idaho (Lands and Transportation), and forestland or rangeland owners as well as County Commissioners and Emergency Dispatch.	<p>Year 1 (2005): Update existing assessment of travel surfaces, bridges, and cattle guards in Nez Perce County as to location. Secure funding for implementation of this project (grants). Provide assessment information to Emergency 911 Dispatch, so information can be forwarded to first responders during an emergency. Update information system as necessary.</p> <p>Year 2 (2006): Conduct engineering assessment of limiting weight restrictions for all surfaces (e.g., bridge weight load maximums). Estimate cost of \$275,000 which might be shared between County, BLM, State, and private based on landownership associated with road locations.</p> <p>Year 2 (2007): Post weight restriction signs on all crossings, copy information to rural fire districts and wildland fire protection agencies in affected areas. Estimate cost at roughly \$25-\$30,000 for signs and posting.</p> <p>Year 3 (2008): Identify limiting road surfaces in need of improvements to support wildland fire fighting vehicles and other emergency equipment. Develop plan for improving limiting surfaces including budgets, timing, and resources to be protected for prioritization of projects (benefit/cost ratio analysis). Create budget based on full assessment.</p> <p>2007 Status: The Webb Creek Bridge is in the process of being replaced and the Cottonwood and Cow Creek Bridges are being restored. The County is also working on designs for replacement of the Cherry Lane and McGary Bridge.</p>
4.3.d: Access improvements for communities of Waha, Soldiers Meadow, Cottonwood Creek, Peck, and Gifford.	Protection of people, structures, infrastructure, and economy by improving access for residents and fire fighting personnel in the event of a	County Roads and Bridges Department in cooperation with BLM, State of Idaho (Lands and Transportation), industrial	<p>Year 1 (2005): Update existing assessment of Soldiers Meadow Road, Waha Road, Peck Ridge Grade, and County Route P3 as to limiting areas of road and bridges. Secure funding for implementation of this project based on</p>

Table 4.3. Infrastructure Enhancements.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
	wildfire. Allows for alternative escape route when the primary access is compromised.	forestland owners.	ownership and use. Year 2 (2006): Secure funding and implement projects to improve limiting access along this road to facilitate broader range of vehicles using this route as an emergency route. No estimate of costs until priorities are set and options identified. 2007 Status: The replacement of the Webb Creek Bridge will improve access to the Soldiers Meadows area. The County is also working on developing road standards for new subdivisions; however, this is an ongoing project.

Table 4.3. Infrastructure Enhancements.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
4.3.e: Access improvements through road-side fuels management. (Waha Road, Soldiers Meadow Road, Central Grade, and County Route P3).	Protection of people, structures, infrastructure, and economy by improving access for residents and fire fighting personnel in the event of a wildfire. Allows for a road based defensible area that can be linked to a terrain based defensible areas.	County Roads and Bridges Department in cooperation with BLM, State of Idaho (Lands and Transportation), and forestland or rangeland owners.	<p>Year 1 (2005): Update existing assessment of roads in Nez Perce County as to location. Secure funding for implementation of this project (grants).</p> <p>Year 2 (2006): Specifically address access issues listed in column one, plus recreation areas, and others identified in assessment. Target 100' on downhill side of roads and 75' on uphill side for estimated cost of \$15,000 per mile of road treated. If 350 miles of roadway are prioritized for treatment (est.) the cost would amount to \$ 5,250,000. B/C Ratio of 31:1 is achieved, but is highly variable. Further, the total value of structures in the county is not "protected" by this type of treatment.</p> <p>Year 3 (2007): Secure funding and implement projects to treat road-side fuels.</p> <p>2007 Status: The County is conducting a roadside vegetation management project by removing brush and limbs from the right-of-way with a bullhog and trackhoe; however, this is an ongoing project.</p>

4.4 Resource and Capability Enhancements

There are a number of resource and capability enhancements identified by the rural and wildland firefighting districts in Nez Perce County. All of the needs identified by the districts are in line with increasing the ability to respond to emergencies in the WUI and are fully supported by the planning committee.

Table 4.4. WUI Action Items in Firefighting Resources and Capabilities.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
4.4.a: Enhance radio availability in each district, link into existing dispatch, and improve range within the region, update to new digital, narrow band frequency adopted by feds and state.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Idaho Department of Lands in cooperation with rural and wildland fire districts and County Commissioners	<p>Year 1 (2005): Summarize existing two-way radio capabilities and limitations. Identify opportunities for radio repeater towers located in the region for multi-county benefits. Upgrade existing equipment and locate funding</p>

Table 4.4. WUI Action Items in Firefighting Resources and Capabilities.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
			<p>opportunities.</p> <p>Year 2 (2006): Acquire and install upgrades and new equipment as needed. Complete feasibility study for repeater locations.</p> <p>Year 2-3 (2006-07): Acquire equipment, land, and personnel to erect repeaters on designated sites.</p> <p>2007 Status: The County Sheriff's office is working on a agreement to share communication towers with the Nez Perce Tribe. The Tribe is planning on installing several new repeater sites. The IDL is working on installing an emergency call box at Soldiers Meadows and the County has obtained an additional fire/EMS channel. There has been numerous improvement to the communication systems throughout the county; however, this will always be an ongoing project.</p>
4.4.b: Retention of Volunteer Firefighters	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Rural and Wildland Fire Districts working with broad base of county citizenry to identify options, determine plan of action, and implement it.	<p>5 Year Planning Horizon, extended planning time frame</p> <p>Target an increased recruitment (+10%) and retention (+20% longevity) of volunteers</p> <p>Year 1 (2005): Develop incentives program and implement it.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>

Table 4.4. WUI Action Items in Firefighting Resources and Capabilities.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
4.4.c: Identify areas lacking a sufficient water supply and develop publicly accessible fill sites.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	County Commissioners and rural and wildland fire districts in cooperation with the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Clearwater RC&D.	Year 1 (2007): Identify populated areas lacking sufficient water supplies and develop project plans to develop fill or helicopter dipping sites. Year 1 3 (2007-09): Implement project plans. 2007 Status: The IDL is currently working in cooperation with the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Clearwater RC&D to secure funding (EQIP) to support development and installation of additional drafting and dipping sites.
4.4.d: Facility, land, business plan and basic supplies for new Lewiston Rural Fire Protection, which will include the Waha community.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council in cooperation with Commissioners and fire districts.	2 Year Planning Horizon Estimate of Costs: \$500,000 2007 Status: Ongoing
4.4.e: Wildland engine, PPEs, and hand tools for Nez Perce County Fire Department.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Nez Perce County Fire Department	Year 1 (2004): Verify stated need still exists, develop budget, and locate funding or equipment (surplus) sources. Year 1 or 2 (2004-05): Acquire and deliver needed equipment to stations based on prioritization by need and funding awards. 2007 Status: Ongoing
4.4.f: Facility, land, business plan and basic supplies for new Clearwater Canyon Fire Protection District.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council in cooperation with Commissioners and fire districts.	2 Year Planning Horizon Estimate of Costs: \$500,000 2007 Status: Ongoing
4.4.g: Increased training and capabilities of fire fighters	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Rural and Wildland Fire Districts working with the BLM, IDL, and USFS for wildland training opportunities and with the	Year 1 (2005): Develop a multi-county training schedule that extends 2 or 3 years in advance (continuously). Identify funding and resources needed to carry out training opportunities and

Table 4.4. WUI Action Items in Firefighting Resources and Capabilities.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
		State Fire Marshall's Office for structural fire fighting training.	sources to acquire. Year 1 (2005): Begin implementing training opportunities for volunteers. 2007 Status: The Clearwater Fire Chief's Association has had great success with the establishment of the Clearwater Fire Academy; however, this will always be an ongoing process.
4.4.h: Facility, land, business plan and basic supplies for new station of the Big Canyon Fire Department near Medley subdivision on Woodhaven Dr.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council in cooperation with Commissioners and fire districts.	2 Year Planning Horizon Estimate of Costs: \$50,000 2007 Status: Ongoing
4.4.i: Safety equipment for all RFDs in Nez Perce County.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council in cooperation with Commissioners and fire districts.	Year 1 & 2 (2005- 06): Complete an inventory of all supplies held by the RFDs (boots, turnouts, Nomex, gloves, modern lighting, straps, and hardware), and complete a needs assessment matching expected replacement schedule. Develop county-wide re-supply process for needed equipment. 2007 Status: Ongoing
4.4.j: Facility, land, business plan, and basic supplies for the establishment of the Wheatland Fire District (see list in Section 3.2).	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council in cooperation with Commissioners and fire districts.	2 Year Planning Horizon Estimate of Costs: \$500,000 2007 Status: New project
4.4.k. Develop and update Mutual Aid Agreements between all Rural Fire Districts and the Federal and State wildfire fighting agencies working in and around Nez Perce County.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Rural and Wildland Fire Districts, BLM, USFS, BIA, IDL, State Fire Marshall's Office.	Year 1 (2005): Identify current mutual aid agreements and needed agreements. Draft and implement agreements across the county. 2007 Status: The IDL is in the process of updating their mutual aid agreements with all of the rural fire districts. The Idaho Fire Chief's Association is also working on

Table 4.4. WUI Action Items in Firefighting Resources and Capabilities.

Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
			developing a statewide mutual aid agreement.
4.4.l: Obtain additional personnel, training, PPEs, hand tools, communication equipment, and a water tender for the Kendrick Volunteer Fire Department.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Kendrick Volunteer Fire Department	<p>Year 1 (2004): Verify stated need still exists, develop budget, and locate funding or equipment (surplus) sources.</p> <p>Year 1 or 2 (2004-05): Acquire and deliver needed equipment to stations based on prioritization by need and funding awards.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>
4.4.m: Obtain portable pump and foam unit for the Lapwai Fire Department.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Lapwai Fire Department	<p>Year 1 (2004): Verify stated need still exists, develop budget, and locate funding or equipment (surplus) sources.</p> <p>Year 1 or 2 (2004-05): Acquire and deliver needed equipment to stations based on prioritization by need and funding awards.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>
4.4.n: Obtain PPEs, communication equipment, ATVs, water tender, 4x4 pickup, and miscellaneous other equipment for the Culdesac Volunteer Fire Department.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Culdesac Volunteer Fire Department	<p>Year 1 (2004): Verify stated need still exists, develop budget, and locate funding or equipment (surplus) sources.</p> <p>Year 1 or 2 (2004-05): Acquire and deliver needed equipment to stations based on prioritization by need and funding awards.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>
4.4.o: Obtain PPEs, hand tools, Type 6 engine, and foam equipment for the Sunnyside Fire District.	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting capability enhancements.	Sunnyside Fire District	<p>Year 1 (2004): Verify stated need still exists, develop budget, and locate funding or equipment (surplus) sources.</p> <p>Year 1 or 2 (2004-05): Acquire and deliver needed equipment to stations based on prioritization by need and funding awards.</p> <p>2007 Status: Ongoing</p>
4.4.p: Obtain additional personnel, training, PPEs, hand tools,	Protection of people and structures by direct fire fighting	Juliaetta Volunteer Fire Department	Year 1 (2004): Verify stated need still exists, develop budget, and locate funding

Table 4.4. WUI Action Items in Firefighting Resources and Capabilities.

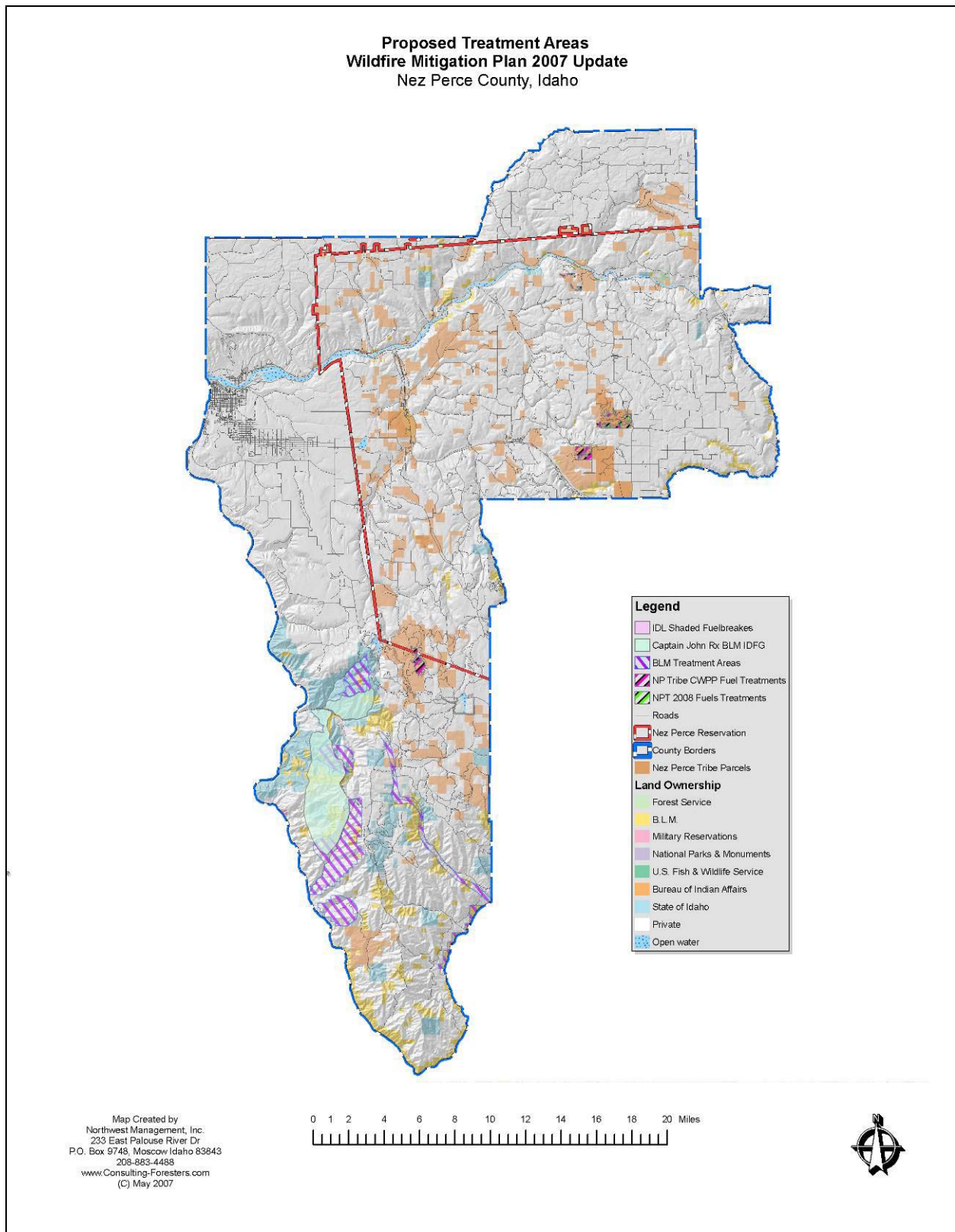
Action Item	Goals and Objectives	Responsible Organization	Action Items & Planning Horizon
communication equipment, structural engine, utility vehicle, station to house equipment, and miscellaneous other equipment for the Juliaetta Volunteer Fire Department.	capability enhancements.		or equipment (surplus) sources. Year 1 or 2 (2004-05): Acquire and deliver needed equipment to stations based on prioritization by need and funding awards. 2007 Status: Ongoing

4.5 Regional Land Management Recommendations

Reference has been given to the role that forestry, grazing and agriculture have in promoting wildfire mitigation services through active management. Nez Perce County is largely a rural county. It is dominated by wide expanses of forest and rangelands intermixed with cities, small communities, and rural houses.

Wildfires will continue to ignite and burn depending on the weather conditions and other factors enumerated earlier. However, active land management that modifies fuels, promotes healthy range and forestland conditions, and promotes the use of these natural resources (consumptive and non-consumptive) will insure that these lands have value to society and the local region. We encourage the US Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Idaho Department of Lands, industrial forestland owners, private forestland owners, and all agricultural landowners in the region to actively manage their wildland-urban interface lands in a manner consistent with reducing fuels and risks in this zone.

Figure 4.1. Proposed Treatment Areas in Nez Perce County.



4.5.1 Soldiers Meadows Wildfire Mitigation Project

The Soldier Meadows Wildfire Mitigation Project is a collaborative project between Nez Perce County, Nez Perce Tribe, Department of Fish & Game, Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District, Craig Forsman, and the Idaho Department of Lands. The legal location of this project area is: portions of Sections 4 & 5, Township 32 North, Range 3 West and portions of Sections 31, 32, & 33, Township 33 North, Range 3 West. The project consists of the procurement of and emergency call box, a 170 acre shaded fuel break surrounding the Soldier Meadows community, county procurement of fire suppression apparatus, and possible access improvements to stream crossing structures. The fuels treatment portion of the project calls for a combination of fuels treatment prescriptions ranging from commercial harvest of merchantable forest products to non commercial thinning treatments with the objective of breaking up ladder fuels arrangement and overstory fuels continuity. Participating landowners associated with the fuels treatment portion of the project include Fish & Game, Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District, Nez Perce Tribe, and Craig Forsman. The fuels treatment portion of the project consists of a 300 foot wide fuel break following the existing road network and property boundaries of the various participants. Approximately 129 acres will be receiving non-commercial thinning treatments and 96 acres of the project area will receive commercial harvest treatments. Commercial harvest treatments include commercial thinning, overstory removal, and species selection prescriptions. Anticipated costs of non commercial thinning treatments are estimated at \$700.00 per acre. This project is calling for the upgrade of an existing stream crossing structure to support heavy equipment and fire suppression apparatus. Cost share funding sources will be utilized to support non commercial thinning treatments, stream crossing structure upgrades, and fire suppression apparatus equipment where available.

4.5.2 Bureau of Land Management

4.5.2.1 Planned Projects

Captain John

The Captain John prescribed burn project will involve IDFG, BLM and IDL. This project will expand on the Madden Creek prescribed burn treatment in the Captain John Creek drainage.

Corral Creek

The Corral Creek fuels project will involve mechanical and prescribed burn treatments in the Corral Creek drainage along the Snake River canyon.

Misc small sales

Roadside mechanical fuels treatments in the Craig Mountains

4.5.2.2 Ongoing Projects

The following projects are in progress:

Eagle Creek annual chemical fuels treatments

Billy Creek annual chemical fuels treatments

4.5.2.3 Recently Completed Projects

Madden Creek

The Madden Creek prescribed burn was successfully completed fall 2006. The objectives of this 1600 acre burn were to reduce surface and ladder fuels and break the continuity of aerial fuels by initiating limited stand replacing fire, and improve forage quantity and quality in critical bighorn sheep, mule deer and elk range. This project was an interagency collaborative effort between Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Lands, and Bureau of Land Management and was derived from the Nez Perce County Wildfire Mitigation objective, to develop fuels reduction projects in the wildland urban interface areas. The Madden Creek project area lies within ½ mile of Waha Glen and the Redbird subdivision.

Harpers Bend Salvage Sale

After the 2005 Harpers Bend wildfire was completed in the summer of 2006. This 53 acre treatment included removal of fire-killed and stressed Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine trees and retention of the larger more fire resistant Ponderosa pine trees. Some small openings were created that were subsequently planted with fire resistant species.

4.5.3 Nez Perce Tribe

4.5.3.1 Current and Ongoing Projects

Sweetwater Drainage

The Sweetwater Drainage project is a current (2007) project that will consist mainly of pruning and pre-commercial thinning with some pockets of brush reduction. This project will improve forest health and vigor, protect values at risk within the watershed, reduce ladder fuels, and reduce the risk of wildfire. It is located within T33N R4W sections 11, 12, 13, and 14.

Reubens/Lookout

The Reubens/Lookout project is an ongoing brush reduction, pre-commercial thinning, and pruning project that will reduce ladder fuels and increase forest health and vigor, thereby decreasing the risk of a crown or stand replacing wildfire. It is located within T35N R2W sections 3, 10, 11, and 21.

Clearwater River Corridor Allotments

This project is a current (2007) brush reduction project. It is a fuel break that is designed to reduce the risk of wildfire spreading from the roadway and the potential for a ground fire to transition to a crown or stand replacing fire. This project is unique in that multiple treatment sites have been grouped together into one project. These sites are located within T36N R1W section 3, T37N R2W sections 32 and 33, and T36N R 2W sections 4 and 5.

Home Evaluations

The Nez Perce Tribe has conducted home evaluations annually on homes located within the reservation boundary in conjunction with the rural and volunteer fire departments and IDL. As more of the rural and volunteer departments acquire the Red Zone software, the collection and maintenance of this information is likely to be turned over to them. However, the tribe will continue to use this information to plan and implement projects on the ground and will remain interested in conducting evaluations where and when they are needed. This is expected to be an ongoing project located throughout Nez Perce County.

4.5.3.2 Upcoming and Conceptual Projects

Deer Creek Shaded Fuel Break

The Deer Creek Shaded Fuel Break is in the conceptual phase at this point. It would involve pre-commercial thinning, commercial harvest, and defensible space treatments across multiple ownerships. The project would be collaborative in nature and could potentially involve the Nez Perce Tribe, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, as well as multiple private landowners. It is important to note that at this point there has been no contact made with any parties and that their cooperation and interest in this project has not been confirmed.